





THE FIRST OF THE TUDORS

(Henry VII Crowned on Bosworth Battlefield after Overthrowing Richard III)

From the series by R. Caton Woodville

THE crown so wickedly seized by Richard III was held by him for scarce two years. His evil deeds had been too terrible; all men feared him, dreaded lest he should strike them next. His career of murders, styled executions, continued; but instead of paralyzing the nation into submission, he roused it into frenzy. Seeking for some claimant, any claimant, to place upon the throne in his stead, they turned to Henry Tudor. He was a grandson of a Welsh gentleman, Owen Tudor, who had wedded the French princess, widow of the conquering Henry V. He had also, through his mother, some trace of descent from the Lancastrians. His far-off relationship to the throne could never under happier circumstances have drawn any attention. Now, when Henry landed in Wales and summoned men to join him, the Welsh did so in a body. Many of King Richard's closest adherents did the same. The king felt himself surrounded by all the falsity he had himself created.

The opposing armies met on Bosworth field. Richard fought with mad frenzy, hewing his way almost alone into the center of Henry's forces and striking the standard bearer dead at his rival's feet. Then Richard was slain, and the crown which he had worn was plucked from a bush where it had fallen and placed on Henry's head.

Thus England's throne passed to a Welsh family, the Tudors.







THE TUDOR AND STUART KINGS

THE HISTORY OF THE REIGN OF THE TUDOR AND STUART KINGS, FROM THE DEATH OF HENRY SEVENTH TO THE DEATH OF CHARLES THE FIRST.

HISTORY OF THE REIGN OF THE TUDOR AND STUART KINGS, FROM THE DEATH OF HENRY SEVENTH TO THE DEATH OF CHARLES THE FIRST. BY JAMES HANCOCK, ESQ. OF THE BARR.

The history of the Tudor and Stuart kings is a most interesting and important one, and one which has attracted the attention of all who are interested in the history of England. The reign of Henry the Seventh, the first of the Tudor dynasty, was a period of great importance, and one which has attracted the attention of all who are interested in the history of England. The reign of Henry the Eighth, the second of the Tudor dynasty, was a period of great importance, and one which has attracted the attention of all who are interested in the history of England. The reign of Edward the Sixth, the third of the Tudor dynasty, was a period of great importance, and one which has attracted the attention of all who are interested in the history of England. The reign of Mary the Second, the fourth of the Tudor dynasty, was a period of great importance, and one which has attracted the attention of all who are interested in the history of England. The reign of Elizabeth the First, the fifth of the Tudor dynasty, was a period of great importance, and one which has attracted the attention of all who are interested in the history of England. The reign of James the First, the first of the Stuart dynasty, was a period of great importance, and one which has attracted the attention of all who are interested in the history of England. The reign of Charles the First, the second of the Stuart dynasty, was a period of great importance, and one which has attracted the attention of all who are interested in the history of England.





THE TUDOR AND STUART KINGS

(England's Sovereigns During the Rise and Fall of Kingly Power)

Specially arranged for the present work

HENRY VII, the first Tudor sovereign, begins a new period in English history. The power of the barons was completely broken. They became in England what nearly two centuries later they became in France under Louis XIV, mere courtiers, powerless without their king. Thus Henry VII had more real control over England than any earlier monarch; and this authority was increased by his able descendants, Henry VIII and Elizabeth. Thus for over a century England's kings were almost wholly her masters.

But when Elizabeth died, she left no direct descendants; she was the last of the Tudors. Her nearest heir was a cousin, King James VI of Scotland. Thus the royal family of Scotland, the Stuarts, inherited the English crown. James VI of Scotland became James I of England. The Stuarts were not shrewd, strong-handed, broad-minded tyrants such as the Tudors had been. On the contrary they were narrow, vain, obstinate and weak. They tried to claim even more power than the Tudors, and so drove England to her great rebellion. All the power that Elizabeth had won and consolidated, the four Stuart kings, James I, Charles I, James II and Charles II, hastened to disrupt and throw away. Hence we say that monarchical power in England was built up under the Tudors and destroyed under the Stuarts.





HR

HENRY VII



HR

HENRY VIII



ER

EDWARD VI



MR

MARY II



ER

ELIZABETH I



IR

JAMES I



CR

CHARLES I



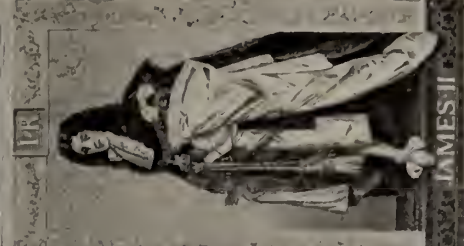
OP

OLIVER CROMWELL



CR

CHARLES II



IR

JAMES II

THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT
TO THE PRESENT TIME

BY SAMUEL JOHNSON, ESQ.

IN THREE VOLUMES.
THE FIRST VOLUME.

LONDON: Printed by J. JOHNSON, in Pall-mall.
1790.

THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON, FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT TIME, BY SAMUEL JOHNSON, ESQ. IN THREE VOLUMES. THE FIRST VOLUME. LONDON: Printed by J. JOHNSON, in Pall-mall. 1790.

THE SECOND VOLUME. LONDON: Printed by J. JOHNSON, in Pall-mall. 1790.

THE THIRD VOLUME. LONDON: Printed by J. JOHNSON, in Pall-mall. 1790.





A KINGLY COURTING

(Henry VIII Wooes Anne Boleyn, a Lady of His Brilliant Court)

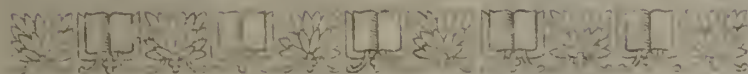
From a painting by the German master, Carl von Piloty (1826-1886)

HENRY VII ruled shrewdly and strongly, and kept his land at peace for a quarter of a century. Then he died and was succeeded by his son, a lad of eighteen, the notorious Henry VIII. Never did sovereign succeed to a brighter prospect. He had no rivals, no enemies, no power which could stand against his. England had grown wealthy and his court was splendid. Moreover he proved himself a clever statesman; reaching out into the troubled sea of European politics, he gained more than he lost against such masters of statecraft as the German emperor, Charles V, and the brilliant French king, Francis I.

One fact, however, soured Henry's life and turned it all astray. He had, when a mere child, been wedded by his father to a Spanish princess much older than himself, Catharine of Aragon. He never cared for her, and soon became a gallant wooer of other ladies. Finally when he had been king for twenty years and saw no hope of having a son by Queen Catharine, he determined to divorce her and wed another. This wedding was to be for his own pleasure and his choice fell upon one of Catharine's maids of honor, Anne Boleyn, who is described to us as the court beauty, "a sprightly brunette of nineteen with long black hair and strikingly beautiful eyes." The divorce was not easy to get; but after five years of waiting and of courting Henry was free, and married the very willing Anne.









ENGLAND'S FOREMOST MARTYR

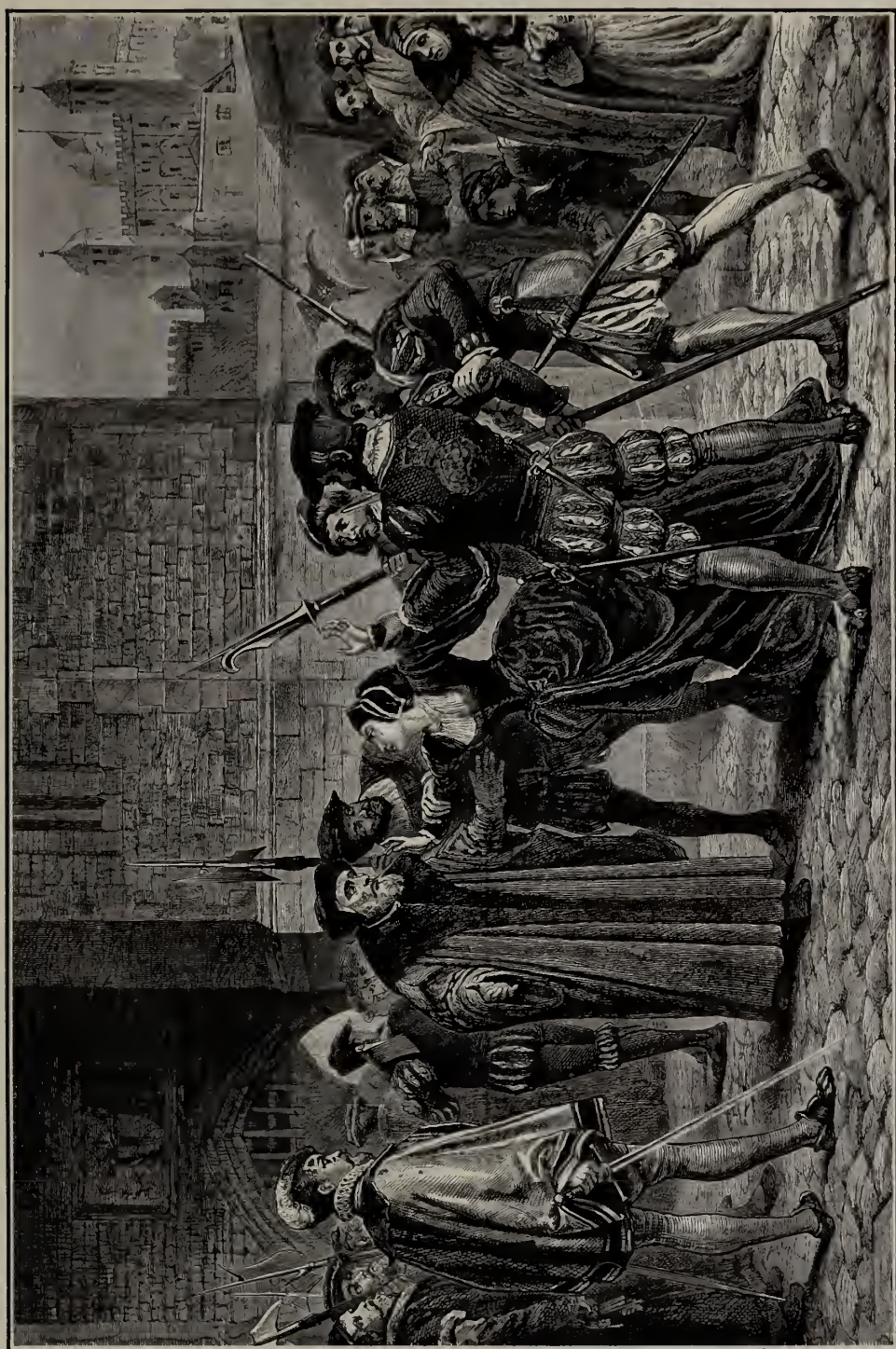
(Sir Thomas More Led to Execution for Refusing to Accept the Religious Dictation of Henry VIII)

From an old English engraving by F. Wentworth

IN breaking with Queen Catharine, Henry VIII disrupted Europe. The Pope had not dared grant him a divorce for fear of the queen's relatives, the Spanish royal house. So Henry quarreled with the Pope and declared himself supreme head of the English Church. These were the days of Luther's Reformation in Germany. Protestantism was also springing up in France. Henry took the extremest step of all, by declaring the English Church to be wholly outside the Pope's jurisdiction.

The completeness of Henry's monarchical power may be seen by the fact that he alone was thus able to pledge England to another faith. His parliament did exactly as he told them in the matter. So also did his churchmen. The few individuals who objected paid for their honesty with their heads. Most noted of these martyrs to conscience was Sir Thomas More, the Lord Chancellor of the kingdom. King Henry required of all his subjects so abject an oath of religious obedience and submission of conscience to him, that More refused to take it, and was executed. As he was led to the Tower his daughter broke through to him and in a heart-rending scene entreated him to submit. But dearly though More loved her he refused. He mounted the scaffold with a kindly jest. He was the most learned and perhaps the ablest man of his time, the one who saw most clearly the slavery whither Henry's bluff tyranny was leading England.









ACCESSION OF EDWARD VI

(His Friends Rally Round Him to Defend the Protestant Succession)

From the series by R. Caton Woodville

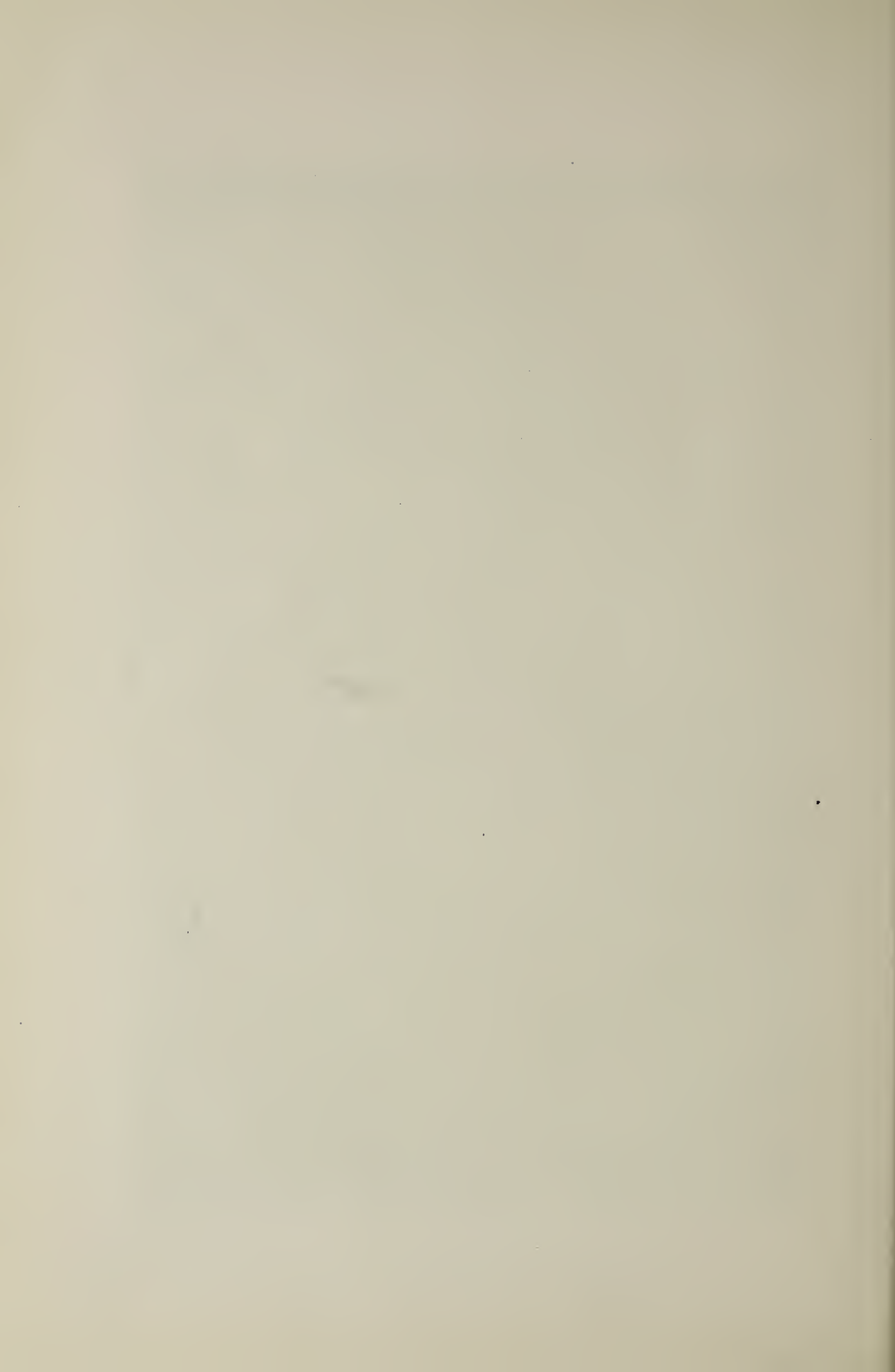
BY the end of King Henry VIII's life, Catholicism and Protestantism had come to bloody handgrips in many parts of Europe. That England had escaped such warfare was due only to the power and fierceness of her king, who could compel all to his will. Thus England had become quite positively Protestant, and both king and people were determined that Henry should have a Protestant successor. He had married six wives in all, and as some of his divorces were much disputed, the legitimacy of his younger children was open to question. He and his parliament agreed in passing a law that his only son should succeed him, and this son, a lad of twelve, was now crowned as Edward VI.

Yet all people who had clung secretly to the old Catholic faith regarded Edward as illegitimate and felt that the only true heir was Mary, the daughter of King Henry by his first wife, Catharine of Spain. So there was much fear lest rebellion should prevent Edward from being crowned; and the foremost Protestant lords girded on their armor and gathered their retainers to the number of many thousand and surrounded Edward in warlike array as he marched to his coronation.

At Edward's command Archbishop Cranmer compiled a Book of Prayer for the English Church and the land was formally proclaimed as being Protestant.









THE NINE DAYS' QUEEN

(Lady Jane Grey Proclaims Herself Queen)

From the series by R. Caton Woodville

EDWARD VI, the boy king, proved a feeble lad both in mind and body. He died after six years of a weak reign; and so the whole problem of selecting a ruler from Henry VIII's complicated family had to be solved all over again. Edward had two sisters. Mary, the elder, had been brought up as a strict Catholic by her Catholic mother, the first queen. Elizabeth, the younger, had been a daughter of Anne Boleyn and her legitimacy was specially in dispute. So Edward had made a will, passing over both sisters and declaring his crown should go to his cousin Lady Jane Grey, who was a Protestant and a great-granddaughter of Henry VII. Jane was a young bride of seventeen, just married and heeding little of politics or laws. Her friends promptly proclaimed her queen; but the parliament and the mass of the people generally, believed in following the regular line of descent, and they made Mary queen.

So here was a resolute Catholic come to rule a land which had been Protestant for twenty years and whose bishops had been beheading Catholics and burning them at the stake. Mary's first care was to attend to her rival, Jane, who with her husband was promptly arrested and imprisoned in the Tower. She had been nominally queen nine days before Mary, so she is sometimes called the nine days' queen. She paid for her brief glory by being beheaded with her husband in the Tower.







ARCHBISHOP CRANMER'S MARTYRDOM

(Cranmer Burned to Death at Oxford in Queen Mary's Reign)

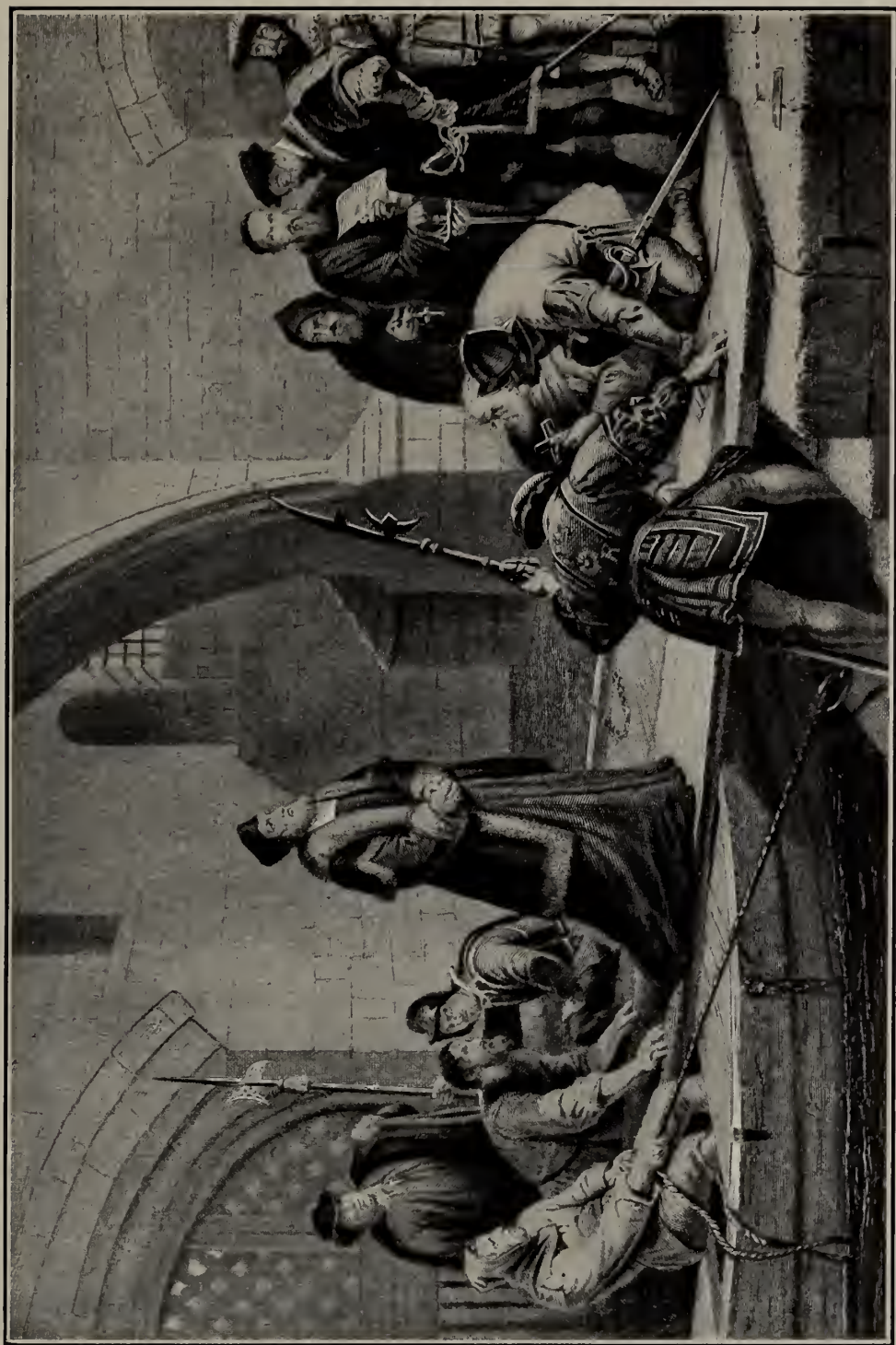
From a painting by the English artist, Frederick Goodall, R.A.

WHEN Mary came to the throne Englishmen were being tortured to death for clinging to the old Catholic form of Christianity, but Mary was herself a resolute Catholic. Moreover, she married King Philip II of Spain, the mightiest champion of the Catholic faith throughout Europe. So, partly at the urgency of her husband, partly of her own stern will, Mary passed laws restoring Catholicism as the religion of England, and began burning Protestants. The most noted of her victims was that Archbishop Cranmer who had been Edward VI's chief adviser. In the hope of pardon Cranmer signed a recantation of his Protestantism. Later he repented of this, and when he was burned at the stake he held out to the flames the hand which had signed his recantation and let it shrivel without a murmur.

It is notable that many Englishmen approved Mary's course. Religious toleration was as yet scarcely understood, and so high was the authority of these Tudor sovereigns that most of their people seemed to think it quite proper for them to regulate the religion of their subjects.

As for Philip of Spain, he stayed in England with his queenly bride long enough to be assured that England would accept the restoration of Catholicism quietly—that is outwardly and except for a few individuals who could be burnt—then he returned to Spain. Philip never visited his English bride again, and she died within four years, partly at least through grieving over her husband's desertion.







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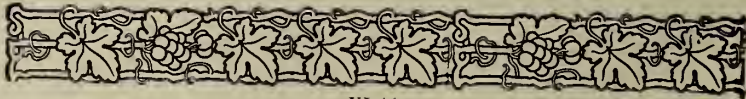
THE ARREST OF MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS

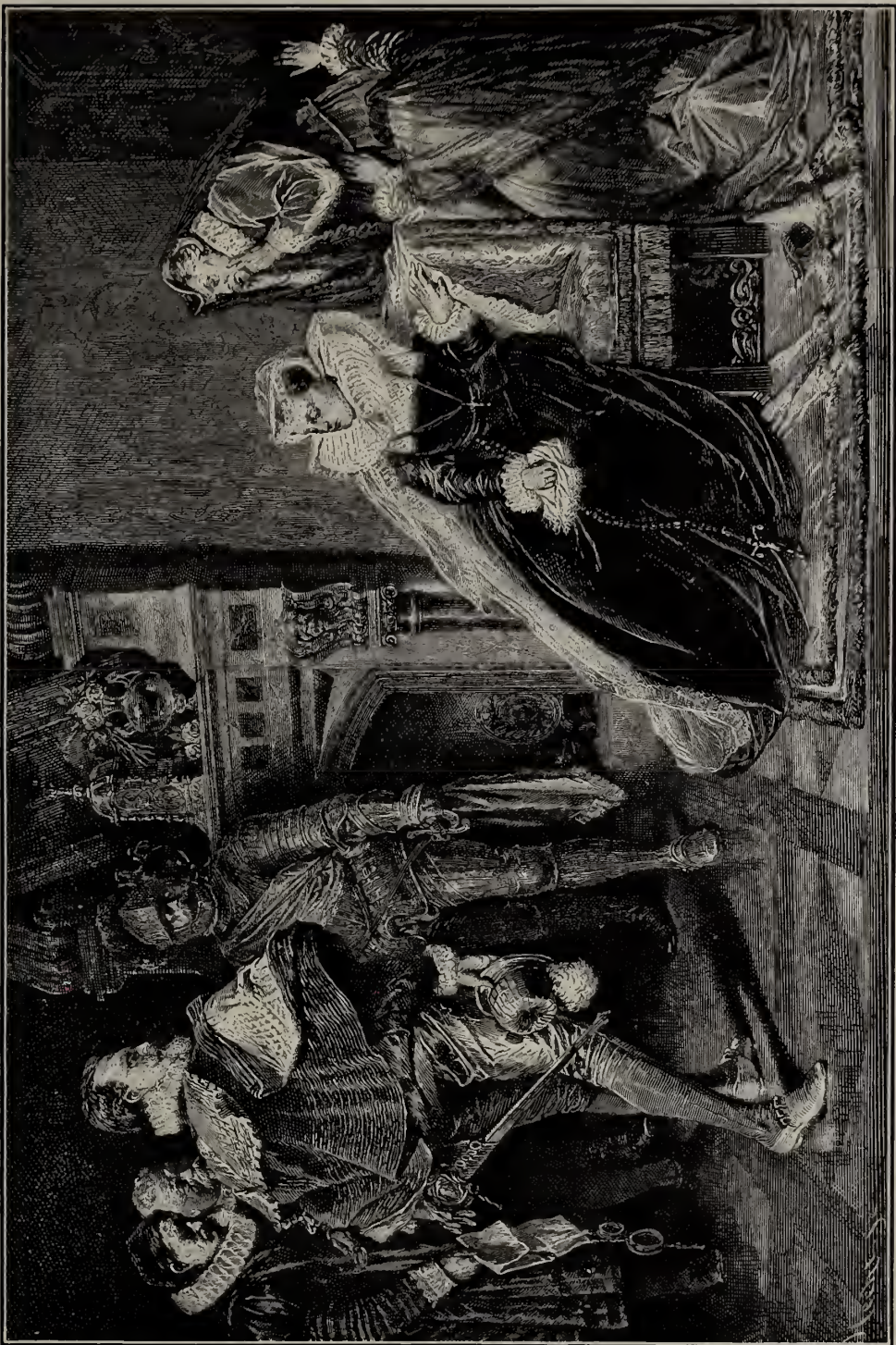
(By Order of Queen Elizabeth Her Guest Becomes Her Prisoner)

From a painting by Carl von Piloty, of Munich (1826-1886)

THE early death of Queen Mary, without children, left England once more in that quandary which Henry VIII's matrimonial complications had caused, as to who was her lawful sovereign. The parliament voted in favor of Elizabeth, his daughter by Anne Boleyn. Queen Mary had hated this half-sister of hers. Elizabeth's half-brother Edward VI had doubted her legitimacy. Few people had supposed she was ever likely to be England's queen, and most of her childhood had been spent either in neglect or in confinement. She had been brought up as a Protestant, and when she became queen at the age of twenty-five, her Protestant subjects welcomed her with joy, her Catholic ones with submission. She sought to win the latter by kindness and toleration, and many of them clung loyally to her throughout her reign. But she was never free from plots or suspicions of plots to restore England to Catholicism.

These plots centered naturally around the next heir to the crown, who was Mary the Queen of Scotland. A sister of Henry VIII had wedded the king of Scotland, and Mary was their granddaughter and Elizabeth's nearest relative. Mary, the most noted, most fascinating, and most unfortunate woman of her time, was a Catholic. So the Catholics longed to see her on the English throne. She fled to England to escape a Scottish rebellion, and Elizabeth after first welcoming her as a relative, threw her into prison as a dangerous rival.







ENGLAND'S GREATEST LITERARY PERIOD

(Shakespeare Before Queen Elizabeth)

From a painting by Heinrich Hans Schlimarski, of Vienna

ELIZABETH'S toleration resulted in putting an end to religious martyrdoms in England forever. Her arrest of Mary of Scotland ended the political intrigues of the time. Thus England became again a united country, at peace within and without; and Elizabeth's court grew to be the most gorgeous the land had yet known. The young and brilliant queen insisted that every courtier should also be a wooer, that all should bow to her as woman as well as queen. Poetry became the fashion of the day at court, and the drama became the chief amusement both of the nobility and of the common people.

Thus arose England's greatest literary period, of which Shakespeare was the brightest genius. We have no positive evidence that he ever met Queen Elizabeth personally and alone, as our picture shows him; but his company played before her, and the sparkling splendor of her court must have helped to inspire the young playwright. If they met, it was when Elizabeth was already grown old. Shakespeare came to London in 1586 as a youth of twenty-two, when the queen was over fifty. But all her life she posed and dressed as being youthful, so young Shakespeare may have recited before her, as other poets had done, and polished up his richest lines to praise her sadly faded beauty.







ELIZABETH CONDEMNS HER RIVAL

(Elizabeth Signs the Death Warrant of Mary of Scotland)

From a painting by the German artist, Alexander Liezen-Mayer

QUEEN ELIZABETH was an able ruler, the worthy daughter of her strong Tudor sires, shrewd, watchful and stern. She played at love-making with her courtiers, but she was at heart a woman of cold spirit and subtle craft. She held poor Mary of Scotland a prisoner for nineteen years. The when she felt the deed was safe, that Mary's adherents had forgotten her, she condemned the prisoner to death. This left as the next heir to the throne Mary's son, James, who was already king of Scotland. James had been brought up as a Protestant, so there was no longer a Catholic claimant to the throne to be feared as a center of plots.

Even this execution Elizabeth surrounded with subtleties, as was her wont. She found excuse for it in a plot, with which really Mary had no proven connection. Then Elizabeth pretended to hesitate long over the hard necessity of punishing her relative, and after the execution was safely over, she recalled the death-warrant and declared it had been signed by mistake. In truth, however, our artist has well expressed the grim determination with which the queen signed the command which rid her of the last danger to her throne.







THE FIGHT OF THE REVENGE

(Sir Richard Grenville Defies the Entire Might of Spain)

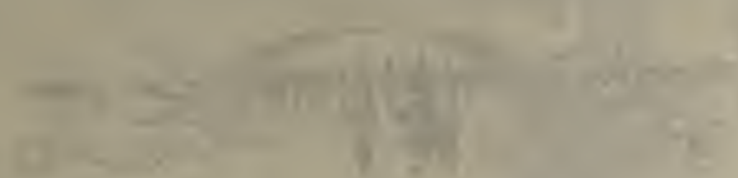
From the series by R. Caton Woodville

SLOWLY but surely under Elizabeth England became wholly committed to Protestantism. This threw her into antagonism with Spain. For a long time the two countries kept up an outward peace, Philip II of Spain seeking to marry Elizabeth, as he had previously married her sister Mary. But the sailors of England had begun exploring the western ocean; they sought to colonize America; and thus they came into repeated conflict with the Spanish ships. As each "gentleman adventurer" returned to England after capturing a Spanish galleon or plundering a Spanish-American town, Elizabeth assured Philip that her subject had acted without authority. Then she gave the culprit a secret reward.

The English proved themselves remarkable sea-fighters. Drake was the most celebrated of these; but the most notable single fight was that which Sir Richard Grenville made in his ship, the *Revenge*. He met a Spanish fleet of fifty great men-of-war, and refused to take to flight. The Spanish cannon encircled him in a ring of fire; but Grenville with only a hundred fighting men kept up the battle all day and all the following night, repelling every attempt to board his vessel. The *Revenge* sank four of the huge Spanish ships, and two thousand Spaniards were slain. Then at last, with all his men wounded or dead, Grenville was captured and died on a Spanish ship. So much injured were the remaining Spanish galleons that in a severe storm which followed, thirty of them sank, along with their battered prize, the little *Revenge*.





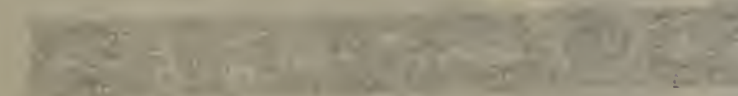


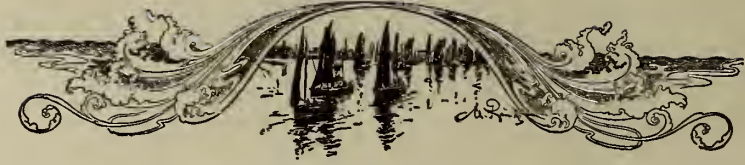
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"THE INVINCIBLE ARMADA"

(The Light English Ships Attack the Spanish Galleons)

From a painting by the English artist, O. W. Brierly

THE final and decisive trial of strength between England and Spain occurred in 1588. Philip at last declared war against Elizabeth, and massed all the wealth and power of Spain in the construction of an enormous fleet with which to conquer England. So assured were the Spaniards that nothing could withstand this tremendous fleet that they called it the "Invincible Armada." They looked upon England as already conquered.

Now, indeed, Elizabeth had need of all her hardy sea-fighters. They rallied from all quarters. The chief command was given to Lord Howard, the Lord High Admiral of England. But the real leader in whom all hope lay, was Sir Francis Drake, the celebrated sailor who had already so terrified the Spaniards that they translated his name as "the dragon."

Drake and his fellow-patriots attacked the armada like so many hounds worrying a bull. They would separate a few ships from the rest and attack and sink them, drive a galleon ashore here, capture another there, until at length the huge armada was fairly beaten. It could not even return to Spain, for the English vessels blocked the way. So the despairing Spaniards sailed northward trying to circle the British Isles and so return. But the English ships continued the pursuit so that scarce a single Spaniard escaped. The strength of Spain was broken forever, and England became the chief naval power of the world.





lences," and with the aid of his chief minister, Cardinal Morton, wrung large sums from the rich, so that it was not long before his coffers overflowed.

The rapacious monarch also took other methods of raising money, of which, indeed, he could never get enough to satisfy him. He accepted bribes for pardoning rebels, sold offices of church and state, and, under the pretence of needing money to put down fancied insurrections, obtained liberal grants from Parliament, which he hoarded in his bloated treasury. The most oppressive system, however, was that put in force by two of his lawyers, who went through the country mousing among old and forgotten laws, which they revived, and thereby reaped a prodigious harvest of wealth. The rapacity of these two scamps earned for them the nickname of the King's "skin-shearers."

One ancient statute thus brought to life imposed immense fines upon every nobleman who equipped his followers in military costume, or used a badge for the purpose of designating them. The court which was organized to enforce this statute met in a room whose ceiling was ornamented with stars, because of which the body was known as the Court of the Star Chamber. The original purpose of this court was to punish such crimes as were committed by influential families, whom the minor courts were afraid to deal with. The Star Chamber was not permitted to inflict the penalty of death, but could impose exorbitant fines and terms of imprisonment. In one instance, when the Earl of Oxford had his retainers drawn up in uniform to do honor to the King, who had dined with him, the King had him fined more than half a million dollars for violating the Livery Law.

Gunpowder was coming gradually into use, and the introduction of artillery added immensely to the power of the monarch, for he was shrewd enough to keep the valuable invention in his own possession. In short, no means was neglected that could add to his strength, which became so great that the groaning barons saw the uselessness of making protest or resistance.

The reign of the first of the Tudor line was marked by the appearance of two pretenders to the crown. One of these was Lambert Symnel, who claimed to be Edward V., the dead nephew of Richard III. Symnel was readily quashed, and was held in such contempt by the King that he declined to punish him, except by giving him employment as a scullion in his kitchen. Perkin Warbeck boldly declared he was Richard, Duke of York, who was supposed to have been murdered in the Tower by his uncle, Richard III. There are some even at this late day who are inclined to believe he was not an impostor. He first appeared at Cork, and was warmly welcomed. Then he passed over to France and Flanders, where he was also accepted as being what he claimed to be. He went to Scotland in 1496, and King James IV. gave him his kinswoman, Katharine Gordon, in marriage. Warbeck raised an army; but in

Cornwall, upon the approach of the royal troops, he withdrew from his men and took refuge in a sanctuary, surrendering a few days later on the promise that his life should be spared. He was hanged at Tyburn in 1499, after being held prisoner for nearly two years.

Henry VII. greatly advanced his own interests through the marriages he arranged. That of his daughter Margaret with James IV. of Scotland opened the way for the union of the two kingdoms, while the marriage of his eldest son Arthur to Catharine of Aragon, daughter of the King of Spain, secured not only an enormously valuable marriage portion to the prince, but the alliance of Spain against France. When Arthur died a few months later, his father obtained a dispensation from the Pope which permitted him to marry his younger son Henry to Arthur's widow, and it was this son who became Henry VIII. of England. The rapacity of the King enabled him, when he died in 1509, to leave a vast fortune to Henry VIII., who was scarce eighteen years old when he succeeded to the throne.

The century which had just drawn to a close was a memorable one, for it had seen great advances in discovery, art, and science. Columbus had found a new world, Copernicus the astronomer had discovered a new heaven, and men had learned that it was the earth which circled about the sun, instead of the other way, as had been universally believed, and that the earth instead of being a flat plain, was a globe. The Cabots had coasted a portion of North America, and established the claim of England to the greater part of the American continent. The explosive gunpowder had been invented and brought into general use. An extraordinary revival of learning had taken place at Oxford, and Erasmus, the renowned preacher, was establishing schools and hewing the path for Luther the Reformer. It has been shown, too, that printing had brought about the greatest of all revolutions.

The highest hopes centred in Henry VIII. He was handsome, frank, good-humored, strongly in sympathy with the revival of learning, and everybody liked him. He was fond of talking with the wise men who brought the "new learning" from Florence to Oxford, and who longed to make the English wiser and better. The most zealous of these new scholars were the Dutchman Erasmus, the young clergyman John Colet, and Thomas More, who afterward became Lord Chancellor. They were ardent in the study of Greek, for the knowledge thus gained brought students in direct communication with the profoundest thinkers of the past.

As is always the case, a good many opposed the innovation advocated by these scholars, but Henry stood by them and was their staunch friend. Colet was made Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and Erasmus was appointed professor of Greek at Cambridge, where he began the work of preparing an

edition of the Greek Testament, accompanied with a Latin translation. Until then, the Greek Testament existed only in written form, but its publication in print added in a marked degree to the study of the Scriptures, hewed the path for the Reformation, and prepared the way for a revised translation of the Bible much better than Wycliffe's. Under the impulse of his creditable sentiments, Henry VIII. founded Trinity College, Cambridge, and afterward extended Cardinal Wolsey's endowment of Christ Church College, Oxford. Alas! that the promise thus held out and the hopes thus awakened were to be so bitterly disappointed.

Within a few years after Henry's accession Luther began his great battle against the doctrines and power of the papacy. You will recollect that it was in 1517, he nailed on the door of the church of Wittenberg his protests which led to the movement against the Church of Rome. Henry VIII. was a firm Catholic, and some time later published a reply to one of Luther's works and sent a sumptuously bound copy to the Pope, who was so pleased that he conferred on him the title of "Defender of the Faith," which, rather strangely, has been retained by every English sovereign since that time.

France and Spain were becoming powerful nations, and Henry was ambitious to take a hand in the continental wars that he might gain some advantage therefrom. There was jealousy between the Emperor of Germany and the King of France, and each naturally tried to gain the favor of the English King. He coquetted with both by turns, actuated at all times by selfish motives. In alliance with the German Emperor in 1513, he defeated the French cavalry at Guinegate, who fled in such headlong haste that the conflict was called the "Battle of the Spurs." The Scots took advantage of the war and invaded England, but were defeated by the Earl of Surrey, September 9, 1513, at Flodden, where their King James IV., with some of the foremost of the nation, was left dead on the field, and Scotland itself lay as helpless as her dead leaders. Peace was made the following year, and, in June, 1520, a series of friendly meetings took place between the new French King, Francis I., and Henry, which were on such a scale of splendor that the meeting-place was called "The Field of the Cloth of Gold." The grand display, however, proved of no advantage to the French King, for Henry soon made an alliance with the Emperor Charles V., and in 1522 a new war was launched against France, which closed three years later with an agreement of the French sovereign to pay a large annual pension to the English King.

Such a depraved wretch as Henry VIII. grew to be, was certain to break before long with the Church, of which he was at first so valiant a defender. He had as his adviser one of the ablest and most unscrupulous of men in Thomas Wolsey, a priest who was able to reach the loftiest position, and to

make the King almost smother him under honors. He climbed upward as Archbishop of York, chancellor, cardinal, papal legate, and hoped, with seemingly good reason, to become Pope himself.

The best government of Henry's reign was when Wolsey was at the head of affairs, or from 1515 to 1529, though it cannot be denied that the policy of this great man was dishonest and tortuous. But as the years passed, the joyous temperament of the King gave place to gloom and dissatisfaction. He had not only "tasted every cup of pleasure," but had drained the cup to the dregs. He was sated and nauseated, and, instead of seeking happiness, where it can alone be found, in humbly following the will of God and obeying the Golden Rule, he reached out for new and guilty indulgences. When he was only twelve years old, he had been betrothed to Catharine of Aragon, the widow of his brother Arthur. He tired of her, and then, under the pretence that he believed the marriage unlawful, he determined to be divorced, in order that he might marry Anne Boleyn, a lady of his court, for whom he had formed a fancy.

Cardinal Wolsey favored this divorce because he hated Spain, and saw in it the means of detaching England from its alliance with that country, while the hope of making a new union with France, through the marriage of the King with a princess of that country, was the scheme that appealed to this conscienceless minister. He therefore, in 1527, did his utmost to persuade the Pope to consent to the divorce.

Pope Clement VII. was in a dilemma. Francis I. of France supported England, while, on the other hand, Charles V. of Spain threatened. The Pope temporized, and, to gain time, issued a commission to Cardinal Campeggio and Wolsey to try the question. Meanwhile, the impatient King discarded Catharine, who was six years older than he, and lived with Anne Boleyn, proclaiming his intention of marrying her so soon as he could secure a divorce. This turn of affairs knocked Wolsey's schemes awry, and, losing all wish to get the divorce, he favored procrastination as much as did Pope Clement, who finally revoked the commission, and transferred the question to Rome.

This step virtually ended the papal power in England. The King and Anne Boleyn were exasperated against Wolsey, because they were sure he had tricked them, and they resolved to punish him. Under a law of Richard II. no representative of the Pope had any legal authority in England. It mattered not that the King had consented to Wolsey's holding the office of legate. Since he had dared to thwart the will of the King, he should now pay the penalty. Feeling his helplessness, he meekly folded his hands and gave up everything—riches, power, and rank. He was allowed to go into retirement, but a year later was arrested on the charge of treason. While painfully making his

way to London, he fell grievously ill, and tottered into the Abbey of Leicester to die. Well has Shakespeare shown him as saying:

"O Father Abbot,
An old man, broken with the storms of state,
Is come to lay his weary bones among ye:
Give him a little earth for charity!"

A new ministry was formed in October, 1529, in which, for the first time, the highest places were given to laymen. Sir Thomas More, of whom you have heard as greatly helping in the revival of learning, was made Chancellor, and the chief adviser of the King was Wolsey's old assistant, Cromwell. About this time, Dr. Thomas Cranmer, of Cambridge, advised the King to lay his divorce question before the universities of Europe. Henry eagerly did so, and by the use of bribes, a favorable response was drawn from the majority. The King was so heartened by this verdict that he charged the whole body of the English Church with being guilty of the same offence that Wolsey had committed. Quaking with fear, they bought the pardon of the irate ruler by the payment of a sum amounting to several million dollars. This was clinched by the declaration that the King was the supreme head on earth of the Church in England. Thus, as has been said, the Reformation entered that kingdom by a side door.

Henry married Anne Boleyn in 1532, after having lived with her as her husband for some five years. Cromwell succeeded Wolsey as the confidential adviser and friend of Henry, and Anne was crowned in Westminster Abbey. The indignant Pope ordered the King to put her away, under the threat of excommunication, and to receive back Catharine. Henry answered through his obsequious Parliament, which in 1534, passed the Act of Supremacy, which made the King absolutely the head of the Church. The denial of this was to constitute treason. The act of 1534 was the most momentous in the ecclesiastical history of England.

While many sympathized with Henry in thus cutting off England from allegiance to Rome, he committed crimes so horrible that they are without the shadow of palliation. He was given the right to declare any opinion heretical, and to punish it with death. Cromwell was his ready tool in this infamy, it being their rule not to allow any accused person to be heard in his own defence. The venerable Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, and the great and good Sir Thomas More could not conscientiously accept the decree that Henry was head of the Church, and, for heeding the voice of conscience, both were brought to the scaffold. These two men died the sublime deaths of Christians. More bade his orphaned daughter a tender farewell; then as he came to the steps leading

to the scaffold, he turned to the governor of the Tower and, with a twinkle of the eye, said: "If you will see me safe up, I will come down without help."

All Europe was horrified by these atrocious murders, and Henry's own ally, Francis I., remonstrated. But what good could that do the poor men who were beyond human help? The worst consequence of the crime was the alienation of the German Protestants, who, despite all Cromwell's efforts, held aloof from any alliance with this bloody Henry. From that time forward, it may be said the course of the English King was so monstrous that no man or woman sympathized with him. So long, however, as they feared and obeyed and submitted, what cared he?

The Pope hurled his excommunication against the tyrant, whom he had once dubbed "Defender of the Faith," and Henry retaliated by suppressing the monasteries. Many of these had sunken into debauchery and viciousness; but such crimes were the pet ones of Henry himself. He coveted the monks' wealth. The monasteries first abolished were the weakest and the worst. The disbanded monks increased the ranks of the disaffected, and the hordes of vagabonds that had subsisted upon monastic alms had now to be supported by the yeomen.

These drastic measures caused a fierce insurrection in the north, where the rebels became so powerful that terms had to be made with them and certain concessions granted, one of which was a general amnesty. The leaders, however, were executed, and the suppression of the rebellion was followed, in 1537, by the dissolution of the larger monasteries. In this same year an order in council placed the English translation of the Bible in every church that all might read it. But to prevent any one supposing he had the right of judging for himself in religious questions, an Act of Uniformity was passed. Certain articles of religion were drawn up, modified and framed into those known as the "Bloody Six Articles." In substance, the doctrines were those of the Roman Catholic Church, and, while making no pretension of forming a complete or systematic creed, they named the points on which there was the most diversity of opinion, and warned all of the fearful penalty of refusing to accept the decisions of the English Church. Thus, whoever denied the first article, that of transubstantiation, should be declared a heretic and burned without an opportunity of recanting. Whosoever spoke against the other five articles should, for the first offence, forfeit his property, and for the second should die the death of a felon.

This act caught the truculent Cromwell. He had used his influence as a member of the government to thwart the execution of the law by staying proceedings and granting pardons, but Henry had become his enemy and put him

to death. Cromwell's merciless persecutions of the monasteries led to his being called the "Hammer of the Monks."

The marriage experiences of Henry VIII. constitute one unbroken record of infamy. Anne Boleyn, who was the mother of Elizabeth, destined to become one of the very greatest queens England ever knew, was charged with unfaithfulness, and it is more than likely the charge was true. She was executed, and then he married Jane Seymour, who died a year after the birth of a son, who became Edward VI. In 1540, Cromwell arranged a marriage with Anne of Cleves, who was so homely in looks that the King could not abide her and quickly brought about a divorce. It was in that year that Cromwell was beheaded, and, though the accepted reason was that which has just been given, it was partly due to the resentment of the King for having cajoled him into the distasteful marriage. His next union was with Katharine Howard, who had been a wanton. She strove to keep the dreadful fact a secret, but Henry found it out, and, charging her with treason, she suffered the fate of Anne Boleyn. His sixth and last marriage was with Katharine Parr, who, too, would have gone to the block on the charge of heresy, but for her shrewdness, which knew how to flatter the King's conceit and to make him believe she thought him a profound theologian.

War broke out in 1542 with Scotland, where the King, James V., was a Catholic, and unwilling to form an alliance with his uncle Henry VIII. A Scottish army invaded England, but fled in a disgraceful panic before an insignificant force of English at Solway Moss. James was so mortified that he did not survive long, and left as his successor an infant daughter, Mary Stuart. The politic Henry negotiated a marriage between her and his son Edward, but the Scots repudiated the treaty, and Henry sent an army to enforce it. The troops ravaged the country and sacked Edinburgh. Exasperated with France because of her intrigues in Scotland, Henry made an alliance with Charles V., entered France in 1544, and captured Boulogne, but in the end agreed that it should be returned in eight years, upon the payment of a heavy ransom.

Henry, although not yet three-score, was old, diseased, unwieldy, and in continual pain, due to his excesses and debauchery. His condition became so loathsome that it was almost impossible for any of his friends to remain in the same room with him. He succumbed to his own foulness, and died on January 28, 1547, in the fifty-seventh year of his age. He was execrated equally by Catholic and Protestant, for he persecuted both with relentless fierceness. The former were put to death because they would not own him as head of the Church, while the Protestants were burnt at the stake because they refused to believe the Roman Catholic doctrines. It was Sir Walter Raleigh who said of Henry VIII.: "If all the pictures and patterns of a merciless prince were lost

to the world, they might all again be painted to the life out of the story of this king." On that dismal winter night when the wretched creature lay dying, he sent for Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury, to receive his last words, and passed away, "unwept, unhonored, and unsung." The world was well rid of him, and yet it is a strange truth, shown not for the first time in the life of Henry VIII., that England owed one of the greatest of all debts to the worst of men; for he hushed her turbulent mediævalism, encouraged her middle classes, and started her toward the highest plane of progress.

Parliament had given Henry special powers regarding the succession. His son Edward, who was only nine years old, was of course the rightful heir, but Henry ordered that, if his son died childless, the kingdom should go to Henry's daughters, first to Mary and her heirs, and then to Elizabeth and her heirs. After these two, it was to pass to the descendants of his younger sister Mary. You must keep these facts in mind in order to understand the events that follow.

The throne went first to the feeble, sickly son of Jane Seymour, who was crowned as Edward VI. in 1547, entering London in triumphal procession, more than three centuries and a half before the next Edward, the seventh, was to follow him.

On account of the old troubles over Henry's divorce, that question was sure to turn up and plague the kingdom and the prospective heirs of the throne. The Duke of Somerset, uncle of Edward, was appointed to reign during the new king's minority. England then had two great parties—Roman Catholics and Protestants—and the momentous question was which was to become the master of the kingdom. Somerset, the Protector, was a Protestant, and he brought that faith to the front. He really cared nothing for religion itself, but was politic and selfish in all he did. He was ambitious, but the plain people liked him, for he treated them well.

He was a fine soldier, and in the first year of his rule invaded Scotland with the purpose of compelling the marriage of Mary with the young English King; but Mary eluded him, and, being sent to France the next year, became the betrothed of the French Dauphin, who was afterward Francis II. Somerset showed a brutal ferocity toward the Catholics, inspired thereto by his rapacity and his contempt for all forms of religion. Disregarding law and order, he sent savage mobs to throw down altars, to shatter the colored windows in the parish churches, and to rob the Catholics of their wealth. Many of the Protestants were horrified by these wanton outrages of the sacred convictions of those whose faith was different from their own. There were riotings, furious fights, and bloodshed, all in the name of Him who taught peace on earth and good-will to men.

But they who sow the wind, must reap the whirlwind. The bitterest enemy

of Somerset was his own brother, Thomas Lord Seymour of Sudeley, High Admiral of England, who had married Katharine Parr, the widow of Henry VIII. He aimed to supplant the Protector, but was destroyed by a bill of attainder, shut out from making any defence, and beheaded March 20, 1549. Somerset was not long in following him, for his rule was detested at home and was a failure abroad, and in 1552 he was beheaded on a charge of conspiring against his rival John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, and against other lords of the council.

Northumberland, who now took the management of affairs, resembled Somerset whom he had supplanted, for he had no religion, but professed to be a rigid Protestant. Seeing that Edward could not live long, he feared the coming to the throne of Lady Mary, who was sure to make an end of his arbitrary power. He, therefore, persuaded Edward to do an illegal thing by altering the succession, and, shutting out his sisters, to settle the crown on his cousin Lady Jane Grey, daughter of the Duke of Suffolk and granddaughter of Mary Tudor and Charles Brandon. The hope of Northumberland was to raise his fourth son, Lord Guilford Dudley, who had just married Lady Jane, to the throne of England. Edward died July 6th, 1553, and some believed that Northumberland used poison to hasten his death.

Lady Jane Grey had married at the age of sixteen, and she and her husband were devotedly attached to each other. They lived in a castle in the beautiful park near Leicester, her prayer being that they would be left alone to enjoy their quiet existence. She and her husband found the sweetest happiness in their admirable life, looking prayerfully forward to a serene future for both, and dreading above all things any step that would force them into the stormy political affairs of the country.

But one day her father-in-law and several nobles came into Lady Jane's presence, and kneeling at her feet, hailed her as the Queen of England. She was terrified, and assured them that she had no wish to reign, and would not do so. They insisted, and when her father and mother urged her for their sakes to accept the honor, she most unwillingly consented; but it was with a sinking heart, and the conviction that the end to all happiness for her had come. She was proclaimed on the 10th of July; but Mary was the rightful heir, and at Norwich on the 19th of the same month was also proclaimed Queen. Mary entered London at the head of a band of friends, without a single hand being raised to defend Lady Jane Grey, whom none were ready to accept as their Queen, since, as I have said, she had no moral or legal claim to that honor. The Duke of Northumberland was brought to trial and beheaded, and Lady Jane and Guilford Dudley were sent to the Tower. If you ever visit that famous building you may see the name "Jane" cut in the wall of the Beau-

champ Tower, which is a part of the main structure, among scores of other names that are a sad reminder of those gloomy days of that long-ago. Lady Jane and her husband were beheaded February 12, 1554.

Returning to Mary Tudor, whose reign began in July, 1553, she was a devout Catholic, the daughter of Henry VIII., and in her veins ran the blood of those Spanish kings to whom mercy was unknown. She married her cousin Philip II. of Spain, who was a languid bigot, and who married her because it suited his father's policy. She was eleven years older than he, a sunken, cadaverous little woman, for whom he did not feel a particle of affection. When he came to England he was received with coldness and distrust. He went back to his own land to become King of Spain and of the Netherlands, after which he never returned, except once to urge the Queen to join him in a war against France. She did so, and the results were disastrous to England. In January, 1558, Calais was captured by the French, after the English standard, planted there by Edward III., had waved above its walls for more than two hundred years. It was destined to fall in the course of time, and its loss was no harm to England, though Mary was so oppressed and humiliated that she declared that when she died "Calais" would be found written on her heart.

She was a fanatic, but a sincere one. The dearest ambition of her life was to restore England to the Church of Rome. Like most people of those times, and, sad to say, like some in the present age, she believed that those who thought differently from her, should be compelled to renounce their opinions, and, if they refused to do so, should be punished with death. It is a ferocious violation of the sweet charity taught by the Founder of Christianity, and has been the cause of crimes beyond the power of human computation.

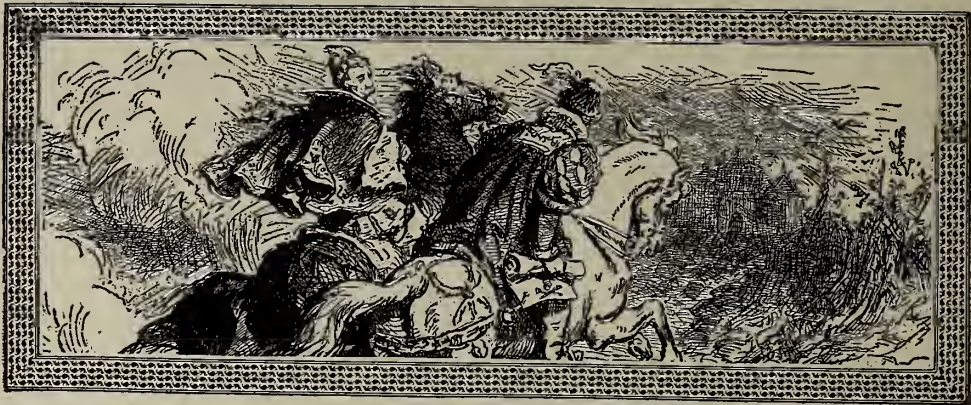
The fires of persecution that blazed during Mary's reign have led to her being called "Bloody Mary." John Rogers, a canon of St. Paul's, who was working upon a translation of the Bible, was the first victim, and by the close of her reign more than two hundred men and women had perished at the stake. The most notable of the martyrs were John Hooper, late Bishop of Gloucester, Ridley, late Bishop of London, and the venerable Latimer. Ridley and Latimer were burned together at Oxford, October 16, 1555. Latimer, exhorting his friend to die like a man, declared, "We shall this day light such a candle, by God's grace, in England, as I trust shall never be put out." Cranmer, the leader of the church of Henry VIII., recoiled and recanted, but was again brought to the stake. In the brief respite given him, he had pulled himself together, and, abjuring his recantation, bravely thrust the hand which had signed it into the flames and held it there while it shrivelled in the heat. Yet both Cranmer and Latimer had been zealous in sending others to the stake who differed with them. Let it be remembered, too, that persecution in Eng-

land never reached the appalling extent that it did on the continent. The fiendish Philip II. of Spain whitened the lowlands of Holland with the bones of thousands of Protestants, who had died the most cruel of deaths.

Broken in health, neglected by her husband, and hated by her countrymen, Mary died November 17, 1558, after a reign of only five years.



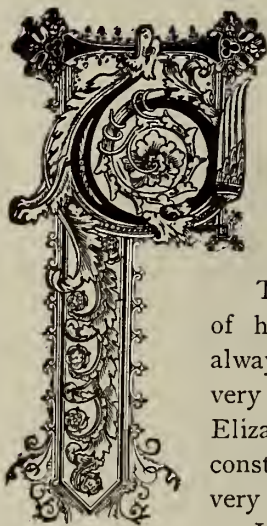
WOLSEY BORNE INTO LEICESTER ABBEY



FLIGHT OF MARY STUART FROM SCOTLAND

Chapter CIX

THE GLORIOUS REIGN OF ELIZABETH.



THE woman who now came to the throne, and whose greatness the whole world has admitted, stood for years seemingly much nearer the scaffold than the crown. She was the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of Anne Boleyn, second wife of Henry VIII., whereas Mary, who had just died, was daughter of his first wife, Katharine of Aragon, so that the two queens were half-sisters.

The legitimacy of Elizabeth depended on the validity of her father's divorce from Katharine, and Catholics had always denied that he was legally divorced. So Elizabeth's very existence was an insult to her sister Mary. And Elizabeth was a Protestant! Mary kept her in prison, in constant expectation of death. Sometimes that death was very near.

It is claimed that Philip II. of Spain turned the scale, which was so delicately balanced that a hair would have moved it. Mary Stuart of Scotland was the next heir to the throne. She had married the Dauphin of France, who was Philip's greatest enemy and rival. Mary Stuart's accession would elevate France, to the dwarfing of Spain, and, though both Philip and Mary were Catholics, he preferred that England should become Protestant rather than destroy his own political dominance, and give to France the balance of power in Europe.

So Elizabeth became Queen of England in 1558, when she was twenty-five years old. She was a most extraordinary woman, Surrounded and advised as

she was by some of the ablest of statesmen, she was wiser in some respects than all, and could outwit them at their own games. She read unerringly the trend of public sentiment, and saw the right hour when to yield so gracefully that it appeared to many she was leading instead of following such sentiment. No one comprehended more clearly than she the *truth* regarding her country, and the almost innumerable complications in which she and it were involved from the first. She was a consummate statesman, if the word be allowable, and the forty-five years that she sat on the throne were in many respects the grandest that England has ever known.

Yet Queen Elizabeth had ridiculous weaknesses and failings. When her peppery temper was roused, she would swear like a pirate, beat her maids of honor, box the ears of some nobleman who had offended her, or spit on a courtier's new velvet suit. She was always hungry for flattery, and, when past sixty years of age, forbade any pictures being sold of her, since they did not do her justice, when in truth she was one of the homeliest women in all England. She had a genius for lying, and, if detected in some outlandish falsehood, would smile and wonder why the one whom she had deceived, did not suspect it from the first. But it was an age of intrigue, when falsehood was universal, and the man least believed of all would have been he who told the truth.

Mary Stuart of Scotland had become Queen of France, and claimed the English crown through her descent from Henry VII., on the ground that Elizabeth had no such right, because the Pope of Rome had never recognized the marriage of her mother Anne Boleyn with Henry VIII. France and Rome maintained this claim, while Philip II., as I have said, supported Elizabeth, whom he hoped to marry and thus add England to his dominions. Scotland was in a turmoil, while Ireland was eager to join any power that attacked England. These were formidable perils, but a still greater one was the division of England itself into two determined religious parties—Protestants and Catholics. There were also two minor divisions, which made up in earnestness what they lacked in numbers. The Jesuits, or Society of Jesus, was founded by St. Ignatius of Loyola about this time, and was pledged to do everything in its power to extirpate heresy, no matter how violent the means necessary. Within the Protestant Church itself sprang up a band that were bent on *purifying* the reformed faith of every vestige of Catholicism. Those who remained within the English or Episcopalian Church were called *Puritans* or *Non-Conformists*, while those who left it were *Independents*. The Independents controlled the government in Scotland and were gaining strength in England.

As I have said, no one comprehended more clearly than Elizabeth the difficulties which faced her, for the two religious divisions were numerous and

powerful. She chose wise advisers, who were often forced to flatter her personal vanity in order to carry through their measures; but even with that marked weakness in her character they were never able to obtain dominion over her or to obscure her greatness as a sovereign. A good deal of her success as a ruler belonged to William Cecil, later Lord Burleigh and Lord High Treasurer, while Sir Francis Walsingham and Robert Cecil, son of Lord Burleigh, were prominent among her counsellors.

But while tearing down the work done by her Catholic sister Mary, Elizabeth prayed to the Virgin in her own private chapel, and the Reformation she aided was a mild one, lacking the aggressive nature of that which was pressed so fiercely in Germany and France. Although a Protestant, it cannot be believed that she possessed much personal religion, for she never showed the enthusiasm of the sincere believer. Her attitude was more political than religious, the great point she made being in insisting upon uniformity and obedience to the Established Church in England. Queen Mary had restored the Roman Catholic Latin Prayer-book. When Elizabeth was crowned (and the Bishop of Carlisle would not administer the coronation oath until she bound herself to support the Church of Rome), a petition was presented to her, reciting that it was the practice on such occasions for the new sovereign to set free a certain number of prisoners, and the signers respectfully prayed Her Majesty to release the four evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, including also the Apostle Paul, all of whom for some time had been imprisoned in a foreign language. She complied by "releasing" them, and the English Service Book, with a few changes was restored.

Some time later a law was passed ordering all clergymen under penalty of life imprisonment to use only the Service Book. Moreover, a heavy fine was placed upon all who refused to attend the Church of England on Sundays or holidays. You will note that Church and State were looked upon as one, and such was the view everywhere. It was the sovereign who prescribed the religion for the subjects, and whoever refused to support the State Church was a rebel against the government. To make sure of the enforcement of this harsh law, the High Commission Court was organized for the trial of all rebels. It cruelly punished many Catholics, because of persistence in their allegiance to the Pope. Sad to say, some two hundred priests and Jesuits were put to death, and the Puritans also felt the heavy hand of the oppressors. You do not need to be told that hundreds of them preferred to exile themselves that they might secure freedom to worship God as they believed right, and, crossing the stormy Atlantic, they became in the next reign pioneers in the settlement of New England.

As soon as Elizabeth was crowned, the Pope declared her illegitimate, and

commanded her to resign the crown and submit to his direction. You can understand how such an order was received. Parliament promptly re-enacted the Act of Supremacy, to which every member of the House of Commons was obliged to subscribe. Thus all Catholics were shut out from that body, but the Lords, being non-elective, were not included in the law. Six months later the creed of the English Church, first put in form under Edward VI., was made into the Thirty-nine Articles, as it is at the present time.

Grand as was the reign of Elizabeth, it was harassed by innumerable plots against her life and against the Protestant religion. Her most formidable enemy was Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, who you remember, had married the French Dauphin some years before. She claimed the English throne as granddaughter of a sister of Henry VIII., while Elizabeth was excluded from such right on the old ground of illegitimacy. Mary urged Elizabeth to smooth matters by naming her as heir to the throne; but no matter how much inclined Elizabeth might have been to do this, she dared not for fear that the Roman Catholics would then find means of putting her out of the way, to make room for the Queen of Scots.

Philip of Spain, her brother-in-law, wanted to marry Elizabeth that he might hold England as a Roman Catholic country. The Queen was anxious to keep peace with Spain and France, for she had not the money nor the ships with which to go to war. So she dallied and delayed her replies to both requests, until Philip, awaking to the hard truth, declared that she had ten thousand devils in her. The Pope was also kept waiting and hoping, until he, too, saw through her plans, and issued his edict of excommunication against her. When Mary's husband, the King of France, died, she went back to Scotland, assumed the Scottish crown, and boldly asserted her right to that of England.

Mary was a wonderfully beautiful and fascinating woman, and, a few years after returning to Scotland, married Lord Darnley. He became infuriated because of the favoritism she showed her Italian secretary Rizzio, and, with several companions, seized him in her presence, dragged him into an ante-chamber, and stabbed him to death. A year later, Darnley was murdered, and it was generally believed that his wife and the Earl of Bothwell, whom she soon married, instigated the crime. The people were so outraged that they seized and put her in prison, compelling her to abdicate in favor of her infant son James VI. She escaped and fled to England. Elizabeth feared that if Mary crossed to France, as she was quite certain to do, she would stir up that country to war. So she had her rival thrown into prison, and kept there for some nineteen years.

Finally, Mary became involved in a plot for killing the English Queen and seizing the government in the interest of the Roman Catholics. It was a

period when the Protestant faith was in peril everywhere. The awful massacre of St. Bartholomew had occurred in France; William the Silent, who expelled the Catholics from a part of the Netherlands, had been assassinated by one of that faith, and the Puritans in the House of Commons demanded the death of Mary. Impelled by a sense of her own peril, Elizabeth signed the fatal warrant, and Mary was beheaded at Fotheringay Castle, in Northamptonshire.

It was characteristic of the guile of the English Queen that, fearing the political consequences of this act, she viciously berated the minister who advised it, and fined her secretary so heavily that he was ruined. She even had the impudence to write a letter of condolence to James VI., whose heart was far from being broken by the death of his mother, solemnly assuring him that Mary had been beheaded by mistake. Yet no historical fact is more clearly established than that Queen Elizabeth was the direct author of the death of Mary Queen of Scots.

Even after her death Mary's devices threatened the destruction of England, for she had been so disgusted with her cowardly son James, who deserted her and accepted a pension from Elizabeth, that she left her claim to the throne of England to Philip II. of Spain. You must bear in mind that this sovereign was the most powerful ruler in Europe. He determined to conquer England, add it to his own immense possessions, and restore it to the religion of the Pope, who had made it over to him. The fleet which Philip prepared consisted of one hundred and thirty vessels, larger than any that had hitherto been seen in Europe. The land forces were to be conducted by the Duke of Parma, twenty thousand of them being on board the ships of war, while thirty-four thousand more were assembled in the Netherlands ready to be transported to England. Since no doubt was entertained of the success of the fleet, it was styled the Invincible Armada (*armada* signifying in Spanish an armed force).

England was thrown into consternation by news of the coming of the terrible Armada, for there seemed no earthly hope of a successful resistance. All that the kingdom had in the way of a navy were thirty ships of the line, very small in comparison with the huge galleons of the enemy. Nor did the prospect on land offer any more hope, for it must be remembered that the Spanish soldiers were well disciplined and trained in campaigning. England, however, possessed one marked advantage, because her ships were much more manageable, and the courage and seamanship of the mariners were immensely superior to that of their enemies. Merchant ships were added to the little navy until its strength was doubled. The command was entrusted to Lord Howard of Effingham, a skilled officer of great valor, while under him served Drake, Hawkins, and Frobisher, hardly second in renown and capacity. An-

other squadron, numbering forty vessels, English and Flemish, under Lord Seymour, lay off Dunkirk to intercept the Duke of Parma.

Misfortune seemed to attend the Invincible Armada from the first. While the fleet was preparing to sail, Santa-Croce, the admiral, died, as did the vice-admiral Paliano. The command of the expedition was then given to the Duke of Sidonia, who had no experience in sea affairs. Hardly had he left the port of Lisbon, when a violent tempest sank a number of the smaller ships, and compelled the remainder to put back to the harbor. When they started again a fisherman, who was taken aboard, said that the English fleet, learning of the dispersion of the Armada by the storm, had returned to Plymouth, where most of its marines had been discharged. This news was false, and caused the Spanish admiral to refrain from going to the coast of Flanders to take aboard the troops stationed there, and instead to sail directly for Plymouth, with the purpose of destroying the English shipping.

All England was alert, and beacon fires blazed on the hilltops to warn the people of the approach of the Armada. When it hove in sight, the English captains were playing bowls at Plymouth Hoe. "No need of haste," remarked the veteran Drake; "we have time enough to finish our game and beat the Spaniards too," and those grim sea-dogs did finish their sport before engaging in the most important duty of their lives.

The Armada was arranged in the form of a crescent, with a distance of seven miles between the two ends. Effingham, seconded by Drake, Hawkins, and Frobisher, attacked it at a distance, delivering their broadsides with admirable accuracy and effect, but avoiding too close action because of the inferiority of their ships, guns, and weight of metal. In the action, however, two galleons were disabled and captured. As the Armada came up the channel, the English kept up their attack on the rear, like so many hounds baiting a bull or bear. Their fleet continually increased, as other vessels sailed out of the ports and joined them, and, with the confidence thus inspired, they ventured into closer action and compelled the Spanish to run for shelter into the port of Calais.

Lord Howard now filled eight of his ships with combustibles and sent them one after the other among the larger vessels of the enemy. In terror of being destroyed the Spanish ships made desperate efforts to get out of the way of the fireships, and were thrown into great confusion. Taking quick advantage of the panic the Britons sailed among them, and the decisive climax of the series of battles began. Ages yet to come will celebrate in poetry the splendor of that fight. Every Englishman was a hero. Admiral Sir William Winter forced his little ship squarely between two Spanish galleons and defeated them both. The English captured or destroyed a dozen sail of the enemy.

Thoroughly disheartened, and driven to the coast of Zealand, the Duke of Medina Sidonia held a council of war, at which it was decided that since the ammunition was running low, and the Duke of Parma refused to venture his army under the Armada's protection, it should return to Spain by sailing round the Orkneys, as the winds were contrary to the ships going directly back. They therefore headed northward, followed by the English fleet as far as Flam-borough Head, where they were fearfully broken by another tempest. Some time later, seventeen of the ships, with five thousand men on board, were wrecked on the Western Isles and the coast of Ireland. Of that mighty fleet which sailed away in high spirits from Spain, only fifty-three battered wrecks limped back. The survivors excused their overthrow by the desperate valor of the English, and the tremendous fury of the winds and waves. The deliverance of England seemed so miraculous that even the stony heart of Elizabeth was impressed, and she went in state to St. Paul's to give thanks for the victory. The medals which she caused to be struck, bore the inscription: "God blew with His winds, and they were scattered."

Ireland had been only partially conquered under Henry II. The native tribes continually fought one another, and the English were determined that all should accept the Protestant religion, which they execrated. The rulers sent to Ireland were greedy miscreants who so intensified the misery of the wretched country that Elizabeth declared, if the horrible warfare lasted much longer, she would have nothing but corpses and ashes to rule over. At last the few miserable survivors ceased resistance, and Ireland was "pacified."

The first real poor law was passed in England in 1601. It compelled each parish to provide for such paupers as could not work, while the able-bodied men were obliged to support themselves. A great abuse was the granting of monopolies or the exclusive right to deal in certain articles. The Queen favored the practice, until Parliament took the matter in hand and reformed it, she as usual making a virtue of necessity and yielding with grinning graciousness.

The death of the great Elizabeth was gloomy and pathetic. Although she had been urgently entreated to marry, she coquetted, and in the end refused all offers. She had many favorites, but none could ever acquire dominion over her.

In her old age she adopted, as the last of these changing gallants, a young man thirty years her junior, the dashing and unfortunate Earl of Essex. For him she seems to have entertained a real affection; but she expected him to treat her not as a mother, but as a gay young miss. She exacted from him the double devotion of a lover to his lady, and of a subject to his queen. She made him captain-general of all her forces; the most conspicuous man in her

kingdom. Yet at the same time, his real power was as nothing the moment it crossed any whim of his sovereign.

At last, when he attempted to offer some advice, Elizabeth boxed his ears in the presence of the whole court. Essex was with difficulty restrained from returning the assault. "I would not have stood as much from her father," he cried, "and I will not from a petticoat." Later, he led his friends in a confused uprising, endeavoring to drive away by force of arms those of the Queen's Council whom he deemed his enemies. He was arrested, and after much wavering Elizabeth had him executed for treason. Then she became dejected, and her strength gradually passed from her. She died on the 24th of March, 1603, in the seventieth year of her age, after a reign of nearly forty-five years.

In the north aisle of Henry VII.'s Chapel is her tomb, with her full-length, recumbent effigy, while in the opposite aisle are the tomb and effigy of Mary Queen of Scots. Robert Cecil, her chief minister, said that Elizabeth declared by signs that King James VI. of Scotland should succeed her, and though this is uncertain, he was proclaimed King of England.

Let us repeat the assertion that the reign of Elizabeth was one of the grandest in the history of England. Protestantism was firmly established, and the money formerly given to monasteries was spent in building schools, colleges, and hospitals. The Queen loved peace, and trade and commerce made immense advances. The geographical discoveries greatly aided foreign trade with North America, South America, and Africa. There was an increase, too, in the commerce with the West Indies, and in the wool trade. The foundations of the colossal East India Company were laid in 1600, and ships brought their valuable cargoes directly to England by way of the Cape of Good Hope. Because of the peace with other nations, the English towns carried on a brisk trade, and the farmers and land-owners reaped their harvests and raised cattle in safety. People began to build comfortable houses, some of them on a marked scale of magnificence.

The name of the "Golden Age of English Literature" has been well applied to the latter part of Queen Elizabeth's reign, for to it belong as poets Jonson, Spenser, Marlowe, and the peerless Shakespeare, with Sidney, Hooker, and Jewell the leading prose writers, while the name of Francis Bacon, the philosopher, would have made luminous any period in the history of the greatest people. There is no real evidence that Shakespeare and Elizabeth ever came in direct contact; but it has ever been the pleasure of poets and artists to picture them together, and imagine the possible influence of the one great mind upon the other.

One of the finest characters in English history was Sir Philip Sidney. He

was of wonderfully handsome appearance, highly gifted as a poet and writer, of stainless integrity and purity, and among the bravest of the brave. He won a high reputation at Oxford and Cambridge for scholarship, after which, as was the custom of those days, he went abroad on his travels. He was in Paris when the massacre of St. Bartholomew took place, and escaped by a hair's-breadth being one of the victims. He returned home at the age of twenty-one, perfected in all the manly accomplishments. He at once became a great favorite with Queen Elizabeth, and so remained until his death. No stronger proof of her high regard for him can be given than her failure to resent his remonstrance against the proposed marriage between her and Henry, Duke of Anjou.

When Sir Philip meditated sailing with Sir Francis Drake in 1585, on one of his expeditions, the Queen refused permission, saying she was not willing to lose "the jewel of her dominions." She afterward appointed him governor of Flushing, whither he went to take part in the war between her allies, the Hollanders, and the Spanish. He displayed conspicuous gallantry at the battle of Zutphen, in Gelderland, where his horse was shot under him, and he received a mortal wound in the thigh. While being borne on a litter from the field, he suffered from a raging thirst, and water was brought to him by his sorrowing attendants. As he was raising it to his lips, his eyes fell on a wounded soldier lying near on the ground. The wistful look in the eyes of the poor fellow so touched Sir Philip that he handed the bottle to one of the men, saying: "Give it to him; his need is greater than mine." He died October 7, 1586, in the thirty-third year of his age, and it is not too much to say that all England was prostrated with grief, for, of a truth, no character was more lovable or beautiful than his, and his memory will always be fragrant among his countrymen.

It was a time, too, of daring enterprise, for the English sailors were the finest in the world. Drake persuaded the Queen to send him across the Atlantic to attack some of the rich Spanish colonies, or to rob their ships of their treasures. Some may have called this business "enterprise," but its right name was piracy. The Queen did not require much solicitation from her valiant admiral, for he allowed her to share in the spoils he brought back. A more shameful fact is that much of the money was gained by kidnapping and selling poor Africans, for the slave trade was established under Elizabeth.

While playing the freebooter, Drake landed on the Isthmus of Panama, connecting North and South America. Climbing a tree, the grim old sailor peered out upon the gently heaving waters of the mightiest ocean of the globe. The grand scene inspired him to pilot his little vessel, *The Golden Hind*, across both oceans and around the world. When he sailed homeward he was as

eager as ever to attack the Spaniards; and there were many of his countrymen of the same mind, the majority of whom carried out their wishes.

Naval success became like a religion to these daring founders of Britain's supremacy on the sea. Once Lord Howard with only six ships chanced upon a fleet of over fifty Spanish men-of-war off the Azores Islands. He made good his escape; but one of his captains, Sir Richard Grenville, refused, even in face of such impossible odds, to turn his back upon the enemy. He had only one hundred well men in his little ship, the *Revenge*; but in deliberate defiance of the admiral's commands he awaited alone the attack of the whole Spanish navy.

The fight that followed is unrivalled in history. All afternoon, all night, and far into the next day, the *Revenge* battled against the huge galleons which encircled her with a ring of fire. Four of them she sank. Fifteen of them her little band of heroes beat back, one after another, as they attempted to board her. Two thousand of the Spanish sailors were slain. Then, at last, her powder being all gone and most of her men dead or so repeatedly wounded as to be beyond resistance, the *Revenge* was captured. Sir Richard Grenville was borne aboard a Spanish ship to die, and in a storm that followed the wreck of the *Revenge* sank, in company with nearly thirty more of the battered Spanish galleons.

It was deeds such as this that broke the power of Spain, and made Elizabeth's reign what it is, the glory of the English race.



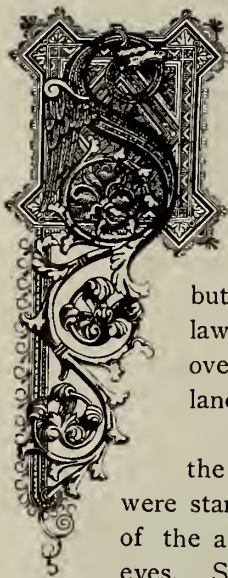
ELIZABETH AND HER COURT



CAVALIERS GIVING THEIR PLATE FOR THE ROYAL ARMY

Chapter CX

THE STUART KINGS.



SINCE Elizabeth was the last of the Tudors, the Stuart line begins with the coronation of James VI. of Scotland in 1603. You remember that he was the only son of Mary, Queen of Scots, and a great-grandson of Margaret, sister of Henry VIII. This made him the nearest heir, and Parliament chose him as James I. of England. His accession united England and Scotland under one king, but each had its own Parliament, its own Church, and its own laws. The strange sight was presented of a sovereign ruling over three kingdoms, each with a different religion, for England was Episcopal, Scotland Independent, and Ireland Catholic. You cannot forget the hideous circumstances under which the infancy of James I. was passed, and the effects of heredity were startlingly shown in him. He never recovered from the shock of the assassination of his mother's secretary, almost before his eyes. Such was his mortal horror of violence that he shivered at the sight of a sword. His body was ill-supported, so that he wobbled like a drunken man when walking; he had big, protruding eyes, and his tongue was so cumbrous that it was hard to understand his thick utterance. He was always in fear of the assassin's dagger, and swathed himself in padded clothes. One of his terrors was witchcraft, and he caused the passage of a savage law under which many poor, old, friendless, decrepit women were put to death. His head was crammed with "job lots" of knowledge, all unreliable, but he always believed he was a profoundly learned man. He wrote common-

place stuff on theology and witchcraft, and verses which had no merit at all. Sir Walter Raleigh had introduced the use of tobacco in England, and King James directed one of his mushy fulminations against the noxious weed. Despite all this, he often displayed glimmerings of broad ability and statesmanship; but had he not been born to the purple, he would have attracted no attention from any one.

While on his way from Scotland to receive the crown, an immense petition was presented to him from the Puritan clergy, asking that they might be permitted to preach without wearing a surplice, to perform the marriage ceremony without using the ring, to baptize without making the sign of the cross on the child's forehead, and to dispense with bishops. The King held a conference at Hampton Court near London, eager for the chance to display his learning. But he distrusted the Puritans. He was an unshakable believer in the divine right of kings to rule, and looked upon this petition of the Puritans as a dangerous step toward the disputing of that right. To all arguments he replied with a wag of the head, and mumbled his pet maxim, "No bishop, no king," meaning that the two were inseparable. He would not grant any of their prayers; persecutions of the Puritans became so violent that, as you know, many of them left the country, and some crossed the Atlantic to settle in New England.

The most notable result of the Hampton Court Conference was the order of the King for a new translation of the Bible. This was published in 1611, and constituted the Authorized Version, which is still used by the Protestants everywhere. When the King told the Puritans they must conform to the practice of the Episcopal Church, three hundred of their clergymen surrendered their parishes. Parliament was displeased with James' harsh treatment of the Puritans, while the Catholics were angry because he refused to grant the indulgences upon which they had counted.

The King added to his growing unpopularity by the vehemence with which he insisted upon his "divine rule." He maintained that his authority was derived directly from God and was above and beyond the English Constitution, a theory that placed every man's life and liberty completely at his mercy. The people would have laughed but for the danger of the claim, which led James continually to violate the law of the land. He turned out legally elected members of the House of Commons, and thrust in prison those who found fault with his action. This fight lasted throughout the whole twenty-two years of his reign.

Robert Catesby, a prominent Catholic, formed a plot to blow up the Parliament House, on the day the King was to open the session, November 5, 1605. The government having been thus hoisted out of the way, he expected to per-

suade the Catholics to rise and proclaim a new sovereign. The plan was to select one of the King's younger children, since it was expected that the eldest would be with his father when the catastrophe occurred.

A cellar under the House of Lords was rented, and barrels of gunpowder were secretly carried thither. Guy Fawkes, a soldier of fortune, of considerable military experience and of dauntless courage, was the most determined of the little knot of conspirators. The plan was for him to fire the explosive and then flee to Flanders on a ship that was waiting in the Thames. The Roman Catholic peers, and others whom the conspirators wished to save, were to be prevented from going to the house by some pretended message on the morning of the fateful day. Where so many were in the plot, it is not surprising that it was revealed to the King and those selected for destruction. On the morning of November 5th, a little after midnight, Guy Fawkes was arrested as he was coming out of the cellar under the Parliament House, dressed as for a long journey. Three matches were found on him, a dark lantern burning in a corner within, and a hogshead of thirty-six barrels of gunpowder. Under torture Fawkes confessed his guilt, but would not betray his associates, though they were traced out and either killed on being captured, or died on the scaffold.

The obstacle to James enforcing his divine right was that he was always in need of money, and Parliament, which was groping back toward its moorings, refused to make the grants without the concession of reforms on his part. In order to get money to support his army in Ireland, James created the title of baronet, which any one could buy for a round price. The people did not seem so anxious for the honor as he expected, so he ordered that every one who had an income of £40 or more a year, derived from landed property, must either buy knighthood or pay a big price for the privilege of not buying it. It was a sort of "Hobson's choice," and honors were plentiful.

You know how the name of Sir Walter Raleigh is identified with the settlement of the southern part of this country. Without the slightest foundation for the charge, he was accused of conspiracy and kept for a number of years in the Tower. Then the avaricious King let him out, to go on an expedition in quest of treasure in a distant part of the world. Raleigh not only failed to get the treasure, but was foolish enough to become embroiled with the Spaniards on the coast of South America. The Spanish king hated Raleigh because of the part he had taken in the destruction of the Spanish Armada, and he demanded of James that the latter should punish his subject for the flarry in South America. The English sovereign was so angry because of Raleigh's failure to secure him the coveted wealth, that he revived the fifteen-year-old charge of conspiracy, and had the once popular favorite beheaded.

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